4.10 RECREATION

4.10.1 Introduction

This section describes existing recreational resources on the University's North and West Campuses, and analyzes whether the project will increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated as well as whether the project will include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

Information in this section is based on various sources, including previous environmental documentation for the University campus, consultation with recreation staff at the University, and data resources on the University's website. Full bibliographic entries for all reference materials appear in Section 4.10.6 (References) of this section.

No comments related to recreation were received in response to the NOP circulated for the project or at the public scoping meeting held on August 13, 2003.

4.10.2 Existing Conditions

4.10.2.1 Regional Overview

The University's proposed project area lies in a region that because of its topographic character and climate offers a wealth of recreational opportunities. Recreational resources in the project vicinity, including unimproved open space and developed park and recreational facilities, are maintained and operated by a number of entities, including the University, County of Santa Barbara, the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District, and private providers. The North Campus site, although currently undeveloped, serves as an informal recreation area for residents and students alike.

4.10.2.1.1 University Facilities. The University is a primary recreational resource for both University affiliates (students, faculty, staff, alumni, and families) and the South Coast community. According to the 1990 and 1997 LRDP EIRs, the University provides approximately 77 acres (9 percent of campus land) for recreational facilities and 108 acres (13 percent) for landscaped open space. The main concentration of recreational facilities is located in the northwest corner of the Main Campus, which is just over a mile from the project site. The Recreation Center and Aquatics Complex, located in this area adjacent to Rob Field, provides for consolidated recreational, athletic, and administrative facilities.

In addition to landscaped open space areas, the campus also provides access to 2.5 miles of coastline from four points on the campus, as discussed in more detail below. The campus also provides numerous recreational programs in both academic and non-academic formats. In the decade between 1980 and 1990, University enrollment in the more than 400 recreation classes

increased 417 percent, from 3,264 to 13,622 students. Participation in club sports, intramural leagues, recreation classes, and day camps has also increased significantly in the last decade.

Stables and boarding facilities are also provided on the University's West Campus area.

4.10.2.1.2 County Parks. The County Park Department is responsible for enhancing recreational opportunities, preserving natural resources, and maintaining facilities at County parks and open spaces. In the general vicinity of the project site, the County maintains four public parks for recreational use: Isla Vista Beach Park, Goleta Beach County Park, Del Sol Reserve, and the Camino Corto Reserve. Isla Vista Beach Park is a half-acre park with a lawn area for sports on the bluff and three raised wooden platforms for lounging and enjoying the view. Goleta Beach County Park (29 acres) is located directly east of the main campus. The park provides active recreational facilities such as volleyball courts, horseshoe pits, boat launching, playground equipment, and picnic areas, as well as a restaurant and snack bar. The Del Sol Reserve and the Camino Corto Reserve (33 acres) are managed by the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District and are dedicated to the protection of biological and cultural resources, vernal pool restoration, and the maintenance of public access and amenities for visitors to the sites.

4.10.2.1.3 Isla Vista Parks. The Isla Vista Recreation and Park District owns and operates 26.75 acres of property, including both natural open space and developed park facilities. Most of the parks are quite small; the largest developed park is the 1.6 acre Anisq' Oyo Park in the business section of Isla Vista. As a result, most of the park spaces are designed for primarily passive recreational uses and for use by residents of the immediate neighborhood.

Although not an Isla Vista Recreation and Park District facility, the Isla Vista Elementary School provides a large recreation area that is heavily used during no-school hours by students and area residents. The recreational facilities at the school, which is located just east of the project site at Storke Road and El Colegio, include a soccer field, playground equipment, basketball courts, and a baseball diamond.

4.10.2.1.4 City of Goleta Parks and Open Spaces. In the general vicinity of the project site, the City of Goleta is responsible for the Santa Barbara Shores City Park, Stow Grove City Park, Lake Los Carneros City Park, and the Evergreen Open Space (refer to Figure 4.10-1). These parks and open spaces are managed under contract by the County Parks Department. The Santa Barbara Shores Park, as currently configured, is 118 acres adjacent to the Monarch Point Reserve site. The property boundaries of the park are anticipated to change associated with the proposed project. Lake Los Carneros (137 acres) is dedicated as a "natural, cultural, and historic preserve." It is primarily used for passive recreational uses. Stow Grove City Park (11.6 acres) is a developed park with facilities including group and family picnic areas, volleyball courts, horseshoe pits, playground equipment, lawn areas, and a softball diamond. The Evergreen Open Space is a 3.5-acre parcel with tennis courts, baseball field, picnic tables, and playground.

4.10.2.1.5 Other Recreational Facilities

Golf Courses. There are two golf courses in the vicinity of the project area: the 67-acre, nine-hole Ocean Meadows Golf Course, which is bounded on most of its perimeter by the project site; and the 200-acre, 18-hole Sandpiper Golf Course which is approximately 1.5 miles west of the project area, adjacent to the existing Santa Barbara Shores natural area. Both are privately owned courses that are open for public use.

Little League. The Goleta Valley Little League operates on Girsch Fields adjacent to the Camino Real Marketplace. These facilities are at the intersection of Pacific Oaks and Phelps Road.

Equestrian Facilities/Opportunities. The Santa Barbara Shores Park currently provides an entry point for equestrian use for the system of interconnected trails in the open space area.

4.10.2.2 Residential Development

4.10.2.2.1 North Campus (N. Parcel, S. Parcel, Storke-Whittier). The North Campus currently consists of private lands that are not designated for recreational use. Informal trails criss-cross the North and South Parcels, and an informal trail runs along Phelps Ditch. Though not improved or officially designated, these trails are used by pedestrians, bicyclists, and horses, and link to trails and roads at Ellwood Mesa, COPR and the COPR Expansion Area. The Windrow Trail is used by equestrian riders, and is part of a large loop typically used by the horseback riders that includes the Ellwood Beach area, coastal bluff and mesa, and the Santa Barbara Shores Parcel. The proposed faculty and student housing site areas on the North Campus, North and South Parcels, reflect damage from mountain bike and BMX riders and un-permitted off-road recreational vehicles. A number of trails pass through the site. Mountain bikers use the east-west trail intercept at the Windrow Trail to access east-west trails that are along the bluffs. Visitors can also enter this area from the Windrow Trail and Beach Access Point D.

The 70-acre Ocean Meadows Golf Course is surrounded by the University's North Campus – North Parcel, North Campus – South Parcel, and the Storke-Whittier Parcel. Ocean Meadows is a nine-hole golf course with a clubhouse and driving range. Most of the driving range is on land now leased from the University. The south and north golf course edge trails follow the perimeter of the course, and allow recreational use by walkers, joggers, and bicyclists.

4.10.2.2.2 West Campus Mesa. Informal trails cross this area from West Campus Point Road towards the Slough trail on Devereux Road, providing access to the vacant land area to the west (refer to Figure 4.10-2).

From the eastern end of Venoco Access Road, visitors use the narrow northern slough finger connector trail, which exists within the buffer of Devereux Slough. The northern slough finger connector trail adjoins Devereux Road and the slough overlook trail. The slough overlook trail

follows the perimeter of the slough in close proximity to Devereux Road. The West Campus Mesa contains the old historic stables and barn that provide equestrian users with the opportunity to board their horses and access the larger trail network of the adjacent open space areas to the west.

4.10.2.3 Open Space

4.10.2.3.1 Overview. The proposed Open Space Plan area under the University's jurisdiction is currently a multiple-use passive recreation area influenced by two primary factors: the level and general quality of recreational use and opportunities and the proximity to recreational access and use. The Ellwood Mesa area and greater Devereux Slough ecosystem are in close proximity to the large urban areas of the City of Goleta and Isla Vista. Passive recreational activities currently take place over most of the proposed Open Space Plan area, except those areas that are closed to public access, as shown on Figure 4.10-1.

The primary recreational activities that currently take place within the proposed Open Space Plan areas under the University's jurisdiction include:

- Hiking
- Biking
- Picnicking
- Wildlife viewing
- Public boardwalk or trail use
- Walking/jogging
- Glider flying
- Sunbathing
- Swimming
- Surfing
- Surf fishing
- Frisbee
- Dog walking
- Photography

Not all of these activities are appropriate throughout the open space area, a portion of which, Coal Oil Point Reserve, is dedicated to University-level research and education. Accordingly, recreational use of Coal Oil Point Reserve is restricted to passive recreation on the Dune Pond Trail and Sands Beach outside of the fenced plover area.

The recreational use of the entire proposed Open Space Plan area under the University's jurisdiction varies according to season. During the academic school year at the University, there are a greater number of students who use the proposed Open Space Plan area, especially during the warmer and drier months of the year. Fewer joggers, hikers, bicyclists, and other recreational users are in the proposed Open Space Plan area during wet periods. The number of surfers who use the area significantly increases during the early winter and late spring months (October through late May), when the surfing conditions are optimal. The Channel Islands block this stretch of coast from the south swells of the summer months.

Glen Annie Golf Course
Los Caneros City Park
Evergreen Open Space
Sandpiper Golf Course
Comstock Homes
Neighborhood Trail
Coronado Butterfly Preserve
Santa Barbara Shores Park
Girsh Park
Phelps Ditch Trail
Storke-Whittier
North Parcel
Ellwood Mesa
Ocean Meadows Residences
Ocean Meadows Golf Course
Storke-Whittier
South Parcel
Existing West Campus Family Student Housing
UCSB Stadium
UCSB Baseball Stadium
Storke Field
UCSB Recreation Center
Ellwood Marine Terminal
West Campus Mesa
Del Sol Vernal Pool Reserve
Coal Oil Point Reserve Expansion Area
Coal Oil Point Reserve
Estero Park
Existing Faculty Housing
Camino Corto Open Space
Anisq'oyo Park
Devereux School
West Campus Bluffs
Coal Oil Point

Legend

- Recreation Area
- Joint Proposal Area
- Goleta Jurisdiction
- County Jurisdiction
- University Jurisdiction
- Subarea

Residential footprints

- Proposed residential development site
- Designated for future residential development

N

0 1300 2600 Feet

1 inch = 1300 feet

Projection: State Plane CA Zone 5, NAD83, Feet

T:\Ellwood_Devereux\deliverables\regional-recreation.apr, ucsb - recreation layout

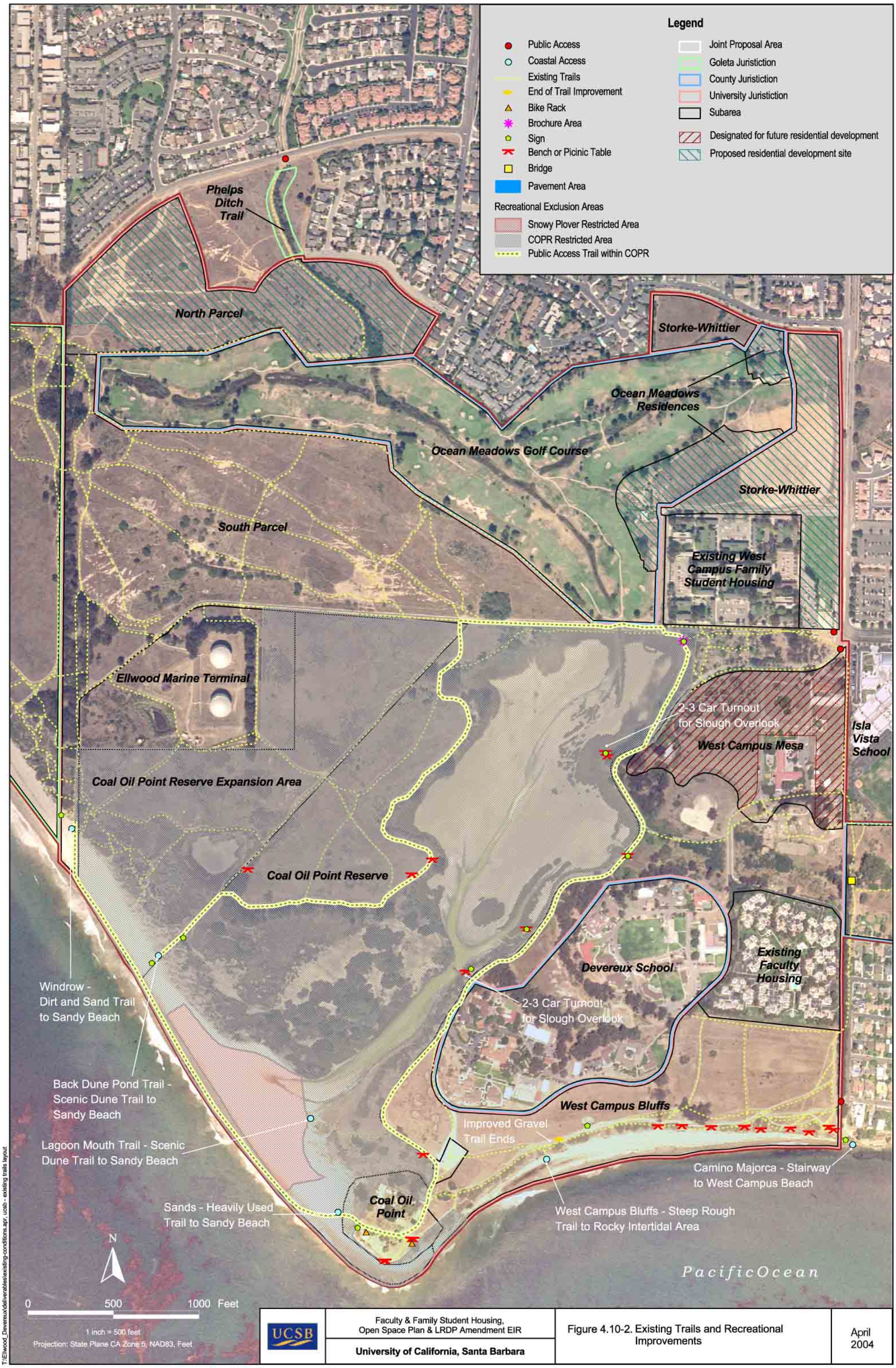
UCSB

Faculty & Family Student Housing, Open Space Plan & LRDP Amendment EIR

University of California, Santa Barbara

Figure 4.10-1. Existing Regional Recreation Areas

April 2004


Legend
Public Access
Coastal Access
Existing Trails
End of Trail Improvement
Bike Rack
Brochure Area
Sign
Bench or Picnic Table
Bridge
Pavement Area
Recreational Exclusion Areas
Snowy Plover Restricted Area
COPR Restricted Area
Public Access Trail within COPR
Joint Proposal Area
Goleta Juristiction
County Juristiction
University Juristiction
Subarea
Designated for future residential development
Proposed residential development site
Phelps Ditch Trail
North Parcel
Storke-Whittier
Ocean Meadows Residences
Ocean Meadows Golf Course
Storke-Whittier
South Parcel
Existing West Campus Family Student Housing
Ellwood Marine Terminal
2-3 Car Turnout for Slough Overlook
Isla Vista School
West Campus Mesa
Coal Oil Point Reserve Expansion Area
Coal Oil Point Reserve
Devereux School
Existing Faculty Housing
2-3 Car Turnout for Slough Overlook
Windrow - Dirt and Sand Trail to Sandy Beach
Back Dune Pond Trail - Scenic Dune Trail to Sandy Beach
West Campus Bluffs
Improved Gravel Trail Ends
Lagoon Mouth Trail - Scenic Dune Trail to Sandy Beach
Camino Majorca - Stairway to West Campus Beach
Coal Oil Point
Sands - Heavily Used Trail to Sandy Beach
West Campus Bluffs - Steep Rough Trail to Rocky Intertidal Area
PacificOcean
N
0
500
1000 Feet
1 inch = 500 feet
Projection: State Plane CA Zone 5, NAD83, Feet
T:\Elwood_Devereux\deliverables\existing-conditions.apr, ucsb - existing trails layout
UCSB
Faculty & Family Student Housing, Open Space Plan & LRDP Amendment EIR
University of California, Santa Barbara
Figure 4.10-2. Existing Trails and Recreational Improvements
April 2004

Joggers, hikers, and horseback riders often use some combination of the West Campus, Sands, and Ellwood Beaches (outside of the COPR and the fenced snowy plover roost area). Sands Beach, which is part of COPR, remains the primary recreational use area for beach activities, and is subject to Reserve use limitations to protect the plover roost. Access to the beaches of the proposed Open Space Plan area is limited to existing coastal access points.

In September and October 2001, a visitor count and data from a survey questionnaire was gathered by staff at the County. Surveyors were stationed at the Sands Beach coastal access, Back Dune coastal access (where the trail passes through dunes to the beach), Ellwood East coastal access (top of the bluff), Ellwood Central coastal access (top of the bluff), and the Santa Barbara Shores Park parking lot.

Respondents to the survey questionnaire were asked to rank the importance of a variety of the area's uses. Walking was ranked by 78 percent of the respondents as a very important activity, followed by dog-walking, jogging, biking, and sunbathing, with each being ranked as important by about one-third of survey respondents. Table 4.10-1 provides a general summary of information collected in the survey and visitor count.

Table 4.10-2 depicts a general summary of the findings of the visitor count survey in terms of numbers of visitors and percent of the total.

Survey respondents indicate that there are diverse users of the University's proposed Open Space Plan area. At 30 percent, walkers are the most prevalent user group. A great majority of the surfers that were counted in the survey use either Coal Oil Point or Sands Beach (174 of the 222 counted). Most surfers use Coastal Access Point B to access Coal Oil Point. The joggers that were counted often use the entire proposed Open Space Plan area.

An earlier survey of visitors to Sands Beach (property under University jurisdiction) was conducted by an undergraduate University student during the winter and spring of 2000. The survey data included responses from 117 visitors. Visitors typically listed more than one activity during their visits, including:

- Walking (85 percent)
- Jogging (68 percent)
- Sunbathing (46 percent)
- Surfing (38 percent)
- Watching the sunset (21 percent)
- Partying (20 percent)
- Beach clean-up (15 percent)
- Dog walking (14 percent)
- Bird watching (13 percent)
- Painting (12 percent)
- Horseback riding (12 percent)

4.10.2.3.2 West Campus Bluffs and Beach. The West Campus Bluffs Trail is a major bike and hiking path used to reach Sands Beach and the COPR. Trails in this area provide coastal access and panoramic views. No equestrians use this trail.

Table 4.10-1. Ellwood-Devereux Visitor Count and Questionnaire

Count Information				Observations											
Count Date	Count Location	# of Count Hours	Weather	Walk	Jog	Bicycle	Horseback Ride	Surf	Sunbathe	Dogs (on leash)	Dogs (off lease)	Nature/ Bird Watch	Model Glider Flying	Artist/Photo-grapher	Total
9/29/01	Ellwood Central Coastal Access	3.5	Sunny, warm	35	30	25	9	0	0	2	16	0	0	1	**118**
9/29/01	Sands Beach Coastal Access	3.7	Sunny, warm	42	21	3	0	157	102	3	6	0	0	0	**334**
9/29/01	Back Dune Coastal Access	3.7	Sunny, warm	24	11	3	8	20	2	4	0	0	0	0	**72**
10/4/01	Ellwood East Coastal Access	3.5	Hazy, windy, cool	42	35	24	1	2	2	0	8	0	0	0	**114**
10/6/01	Sands Beach Coastal Access	4.5	Cloudy, cool	50	14	11	5	17	0	1	1	4	3	0	**106**
10/7/01	Ellwood East Coastal Access	3.0	Sunny, breezy	72	27	40	10	0	4	2	18	0	10	2	**185**
10/11/01	Ellwood East Coastal Access	3.0	Partly cloudy, strong breeze	26	26	12	0	3	0	0	10	0	0	0	**77**
10/13/01	Back Dune Coastal Access	3.0	Sunny, warm	6	1	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**16**
10/13/01	Back Dune Coastal Access	3.0	Sunny, warm	20	9	7	0	20	5	1	4	0	0	0	**66**
10/19/01	Ellwood East Coastal Access	4.0	Sunny, very warm	39	19	16	7[1]	3	3	2	5	0	0	0	**87**
10/19/01	County Park Parking Lot	3.0	Overcast, cool	13	5	3	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	**25**
10/27/01	County Park Parking Lot	3.8	Partly cloudy, warm	19	5	18	21	0	0	3	10	0	0	0	**76**
		41.7	**Total**	**388**	**203**	**164**	**61**	**122**	**118**	**18**	**82**	**4**	**13**	**3**	**1,276**

[1]Not included in total to avoid double counting.

Source: Joint Proposal for the Ellwood-Devereux Coast, March 2002

The West Campus Bluffs Beach is accessed via the Camino Majorca stairway and two informal access trails from the West Campus Bluffs Trail, and receives heavy walking and jogging use, but only light to moderate beach activities. During the winter months, surfing use is heavy at times toward Coal Oil Point (at the point break known as Devereux).

Table 4.10-2. Visitor Count Survey Summary

Activity	Number of Visitors	Percent of Total
Walk	388	30.4
Surf	203	17.4
Jog	203	15.9
Bicycle	164	12.9
Sunbathe	118	9.2
Dog walk	100	7.8
Horseback ride	61	4.8
Model glider flying	13	1.0
Nature/bird watch	4	0.3
Artist/photographer	3	0.2
Total	**1,276**	**100**

Source: Joint Proposal for the Ellwood-Devereux Coast, March 2002

Coal Oil Point and Coal Oil Point Reserve. COPR, managed as part of the University of California Natural Reserve System (UCNRS), is a critical portion of the proposed Open Space Plan area due to its ecological significance. UCNRS policy stipulates that there is no unauthorized public access in the Reserve. The only exception is that passive recreation by the public is permitted on the Dune Pond trail and on Sands beach outside the fenced plover area. Public access to other areas on the Reserve is for educational purposes and can be attained through the submission and approval of a formal application.

Along the southeastern perimeter of Venoco Access Road, restoration of part of the slough buffer area is underway. Signs have been posted near this restoration area to prevent visitor access. Venoco Access Road is used primarily by bicyclists to gain access to the Ellwood Mesa and North Campus open space areas, and intersects with the Windrow Trail. The COPR recently improved a 1,500-foot-long pedestrian trail adjacent to Devereux Road (pedestrians previously walked in the roadway).

The Draft COPR Management Plan (Sandoval, 2003) describes existing conditions and constraints with respect to trails in the sensitive area of the slough, beaches, dune habitats, and the general watershed area. The COPR limits access within its 157 acres of coastal habitats,

including the beach to the mid-high tide line, and maintains access to some beach areas of the reserve for passive beach recreation (outside of the designated snowy plover roost). These access points include West Campus Beach, Ellwood Beach, the bluff at the Sands Beach entrance near the Cliff House (East Entrance), the bluff between the COPR and Ellwood Bluffs (West Entrance), and the southern terminus of the Dune Pond Trail. Overall, use of the trails of the proposed Open Space Plan area by pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrians is increasing with development of the Goleta Valley (Sandoval, 2003).

Sands Beach is the primary coastal recreational area for residents of Isla Vista and Goleta. Overall, Sands Beach receives tens of thousands of visits annually, with hundreds of users on peak use days in the spring, summer, and fall. Beach-goers tend to concentrate on the 200 yards of dune and beach east of the lagoon mouth and west of Coal Oil Point, and include surfers, sunbathers, walkers, joggers, naturalists, bicyclists, and dog walkers. Swimming often occurs further to the west in non-rocky areas around or west of the lagoon mouth (Sandoval, 2003). The beach area (known as "Sands") of the COPR is open to the public, except on the dry sand in the fenced western snowy plover roost area. Equestrians are urged to use only the Ellwood Beach area due to the proximity of Sands Beach to the designated critical habitat area for the western snowy plover.

Foot traffic and dogs on leashes are allowed on the beach except within designated dry sand areas of the western snowy plover roost. All visitors are encouraged to stay away from the designated critical habitat area for the western snowy plover. Equestrian users must use Beach Access Point D to enter and exit the beach. Signs request that equestrian users ride west of Beach Access Point D.

The existing Dune Pond Trail, located east of the COPR Expansion Area, exits to Beach Access Point C, and was formerly used by BMX, mountain bikers, and equestrian riders (however such use is now unauthorized). The southern portion of the trail floods in the winter, forcing pedestrians to walk in or near sensitive wetlands. Finally, the trail's southern terminus places visitors within the western snowy plover nesting area. The Dune Pond Trail ultimately connects with several trail options for users, either the existing trail on the western side of the Devereux Slough (Slough to Dunes Trail) or the trail leading to Venoco Access Road in a north-south orientation. There are two primary scenic overlook benches along the Slough perimeter.

4.10.3 Regulatory Framework

There are no federal or local regulations specifically applicable to recreational resources on the University's North or West Campuses. For a discussion of coastal act policies that relate to coastal access and, thus, coastal recreational activities, refer to Section 4.6 (Land Use and Planning) of this document.

4.10.4 Project Impacts and Mitigation

4.10.4.1 Methodology

The UCSB campus does not have an established minimum standard for the provision of parkland or recreational facilities, reflected in acres per population. Standards for County of Santa Barbara and the City of Goleta (reflected in acres of parkland per 1,000 population) are provided for informational purposes in the analysis. The national recreational standard for universities is one acre per 1,000 population (Spaventa, 2003).

Impacts on recreational facilities are considered significant if an increase in population would result in either the deterioration of existing recreational facilities, increased demand that would require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment, or an adverse effect on existing recreational facilities.

4.10.4.2 LRDP Policies

The Coastal Act Element of the LRDP included a range of policies and standards (herein termed LRDP policies) to demonstrate consistency of the LRDP, and projects implemented under the LRDP, with the statutory requirements of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act (commencing with Section 30200). The following LRDP policies are relevant to Recreation.

30210.1. The coastal access improvements shown in Figure 4.10-3 shall be implemented in conjunction with nearby building projects, or independently in advance, if funding permits.

30210.2. Public access to campus beaches from adjoining beaches and all stairway or pathway access routes mapped in Figure 26 in the 1990 LRDP and Figure 3.0 in the North and West Campus Housing LRDP Amendment will remain open to protect the permanent right of the public for pedestrian access and appropriate recreational uses of the beach at all times, except as provided for in policy number 30210.17.

30210.3. Visitors shall be entitled to use the parking facilities on the campus after payment of the appropriate parking fee and in accordance with campus parking regulations. Visitors shall be entitled to park in lots 23 and 24 on the southwest side of the Main Campus.

30210.6. The campus shall allow coastal access permit parking at the north entrance to the West Campus and a the west terminus of Phelps Road as shown on Figure 26 of the 1990 LRDP and Figure 3.0 of the North and West Campus Housing LRDP Amendment, respectively. Given the space limitations imposed by the existing student garden and the need to protect the Devereux Slough from runoff from parking facilities, no more than ten additional parking spaces shall be provided at the time the adjacent faculty housing on West Campus is developed. Twenty parking spaces will be provided at the west terminus of Phelps Road at the time at adjacent housing on North Campus is developed.

30210.7. To provide parking for a potential seminar facility at Coal Oil Point, while protecting the area from overuse, parking for no more than 50 cars shall be provided at Coal Oil Point, subject to special permit.

30210.8. For West Campus faculty housing uses, one and one-half spaces per unit shall be provided plus one-half space per unit for guests.

30210.9. The campus shall conspicuously post coastal access signs which note the direction of the nearest beach access point at the approximate locations shown in Figure 26 in the 1990 LRDP and Figure 3.0 in the North & West Campus Housing LRDP Amendment and in parking lots 1, 5, 6, 10, 23, and 24. Additionally, signs will also be placed near the top of the bluff indicating paths and stairway locations.

30210.10. The University will, subject to the availability of funding from the State Coastal Conservancy, provide interpretive signs on North and West Campus, to highlight environmentally sensitive areas which could be damaged by excessive or unauthorized access.

30210.14. Feasible access for the physically challenged shall be provided where topographical and environmental constraints allow. Coastal access for the physically challenged to bluff top viewing point shall be provided in Lagoon Park. Additional coastal access for the physically challenged shall be provided will be provided by the installation of one handicap accessible parking space in the proposed parking lot at the west terminus of Phelps Road and at the intersection of the oil company access road and the proposed road into South development area on North Campus.

30210.15. The campus shall continue to maintain and improve bicycle and pedestrian access ways to the beach as necessary to protect sensitive habitat areas and public safety.

30210.17. Public access policies under this section shall be subject to restriction, as determined by the campus, only when public access is inconsistent with the following: a) public health or safety; b) natural disaster, civil disorders which pose a threat to property, or other such seriously disruptive events; c) extraordinary measures which are required to immediately avert, alleviate, or repair damage to campus property, or to maintain the orderly operation of the campus; military security needs; d) protection of fragile coastal resources; and e) adequate nearby access.

30210.18. The campus shall cooperate with the County of Santa Barbara and the California Department of Parks and Recreation in the proposed expansion of the California Coastal Trail System so long as it is consistent with the environmental constraints of the Coastal Act.

Santa Barbara Shores Parking

Public Access through Comstock Homes Development

Pebble Beach Dr

Santa Barbara Shores Dr

Anchor Dr

Newport Dr

Hollister Ave

Coronado Dr

Cannon Green Dr

Pacific Oaks Rd

Public Parking at University Faculty Housing

Phelps Rd

Pedestrian and Bicycle Boardwalk

Whittier Dr

Storke Rd

Access Point F
Minor Grading
Pedestrians Only

Access Point E
Repair Potholes
in Pavement
Pedestrians Only

Optional
All Users
Boardwalk

West Campus
Mesa Parking

El Colegio Rd

Access Point D
Rustic Beach Stairs
Pedestrians, Equestrians
and Bicycles

Pedestrian
Boardwalk

Deveraux Rd

Camino Majorca

Camino Majorco
On-Street Parking

Access Point C
Boardwalk
Pedestrians Only

Coal Oil
Point
Parking

West Campus
Bluffs Parking

Del Playa Dr

Access Point A
Existing Stairs

Access Point B
Rustic Beach Steps
Pedestrians Only

Rustic Bluff Stairs
Beach Access Alternative

Legend

Existing Trails with Proposed Designated Uses

- Pedestrian Trails
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Trails
- Pedestrian and Equestrian Trails
- Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Equestrian Trails
- Existing Trails to be Closed
- Pedestrian Boardwalks
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Boardwalks
- (19) Trail Identification Number

Note: Please see Figure 18 for map of trail designs

Other Existing or Proposed Trail Features

- Potential Future Bridge or Culvert
- Existing Beach Access Points to be Maintained
- Existing and Proposed Parking Lots
- Existing and New Public Coastal Access Points (Trailheads)
- Open Space Plan Area
- Jurisdictional Boundary

0 900 1800 Feet

1 inch = 900 feet

Projection: State Plane CA Zone 5, NAD83, Feet

UCSB

Faculty & Family Student Housing,
Open Space Plan & LRDP Amendment EIR

University of California, Santa Barbara

Figure 4.10-3. Proposed Trails

September 2004

30210.19. Pedestrian access to the sandy beaches upcoast shall be provided by a) the campus from Camino Majorca at the end of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista; and, b) from the proposed coastal access parking lot at the west terminus of Phelps Road via a trail along the western boundary of North Campus to the beach. Trail access upcoast along the bluff top should be marked with appropriate directional information and cautions against intrusion into the fenced Reserve.

30210.20. Site planning for the new development areas shall create pedestrian connections between the development areas and the open space areas to enhance pedestrian circulation and maximize future residents' enjoyment of surrounding open space.

30210.21. Site planning for the new development areas shall ensure the east-west trail through North and West Campus (see Figure 3.0 of the North and West Campus Housing LRDP Amendment) will be aligned to connect with the coastal trail in the proposed development at Monarch Pointe Reserve.

30213.1. Outdoor recreational facilities, including recreation fields, basketball and tennis courts, may be used by the public at no cost when not occupied by University classes or programs.

30213.2. Indoor recreational facilities such as weight rooms, gymnasia and the swimming pool may be used by the public, at low cost on a per-use or quarterly basis, as established by campus administrative programs.

30221.1. New student and faculty housing projects, including those adjacent to coastal bluff top parks, will contain recreational facilities and open space so as not to overburden oceanfront recreational areas.

30240(a)2. Existing fences, signs, and information maps around the perimeter of the Reserve shall be maintained to restrict unauthorized access by pedestrians, dogs, motor vehicles (except service and emergency vehicles), and off-road bicycles.

30240(a)6. Signs prohibiting unauthorized vehicles (except service and emergency vehicles), pedestrians, and domestic pets from entering the Reserve shall be posted along its eastern boundary. Signs shall be posted when West Campus housing is constructed.

30240(a)8. Pedestrians and bicycles shall be encouraged to remain on existing trails. Signs shall be posted.

30240(a)15. Unleashed dogs and motor vehicles, except for service and emergency vehicles, shall be prohibited on campus beaches.

4.10.4.3 Thresholds of Significance

The following thresholds of significance are based on Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines. For purposes of this EIR, implementation of the proposed project may have a significant adverse impact on recreational resources if it would result in any of the following:

- Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated
- Propose the construction of recreation facilities or require the expansion of recreation facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment
- Affect existing recreational opportunities

4.10.4.4 Effects Not Found to Be Significant

The Initial Study did not identify any Effects Not Found to Be Significant related to recreation; therefore, all potential recreational impacts identified in the Initial Study Checklist included in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines are discussed in this EIR.

4.10.4.5 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact 4.10-1. Project implementation could increase recreational use of the open space under University jurisdiction; however, any such increase is unlikely to result in accelerated deterioration of the open space areas on the North and West Campuses. With implementation of identified mitigation measures, this impact would be reduced to a *less-than-significant* level.

Amendment of the LRDP to permit residential development on the North Campus, coastal access improvements, and open space management activities, including habitat restoration, would incrementally increase recreational use of Open Space areas, which could cause deterioration of those areas.

Development of 236 units of faculty housing on the North Parcel and 151 units of family student housing on the Storke-Whittier Parcel, would incrementally increase recreational use of Open Space areas. Implementation of the portion of the Ellwood-Devereux Coast Open Space and Habitat Management Plan (Open Space Plan) under the University's jurisdiction would result in coastal access improvements, including: (1) improvement of existing trails, (2) improvement of existing beach access points, (3) installation of a new coastal access stairway, (4) provision of additional public parking, and (5) replacement of an existing portable restroom. These improvements, along with restoration of habitat and management of other coastal resources could incrementally increase use of Open Space areas, but would also protect recreational and sensitive resources in the area.

The overall projected increase in the residential population of 1,003 persons could result in a related increase in the demand for parks or other recreational facilities both on and off campus. Currently, unincorporated County of Santa Barbara contains 8,372 acres of parkland and the

City of Goleta contains 382 acres of parkland (Garciacaley, 2003). These parklands total 8,754 acres, or 45.26 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents in the combined unincorporated County of Santa Barbara and City of Goleta area. This is substantially more than the respective adopted countywide and citywide ratio of 4.7 acre per 1,000 persons. Furthermore, the on-campus recreational areas total approximately 52.2 improved acres. Based on an estimated campus population of 31,090 persons with the proposed project, the campus' parkland-to-population ratio of 1.68 acres per 1,000 campus population. This ratio would continue to meet the national University recreational standard of one acre per 1,000 population. In addition, campus residents would have access to City and County park facilities.

The proposed project would result in development of 236 faculty housing units within the North Parcel of North Campus. Consistent with LRDP policy 30221.1, the proposed residential developments would entail recreational and open space components for utilization by the new development, so as not to overburden existing recreational areas. The faculty-housing component of the proposed project would include 3 acres of undeveloped open space and a 2,500-square foot recreational center, which would consist of a common building with a pool. In addition, a series of private and public paths and trails would be provided around and through the site, linking to the Window Trail along the western boundary of the North Campus. With a population of 612, these recreational features on the project site would adequately serve proposed residents. As such, project residents would not rely solely on existing recreational facilities in the area that would lead to deterioration of those facilities. Faculty would have access to and use existing University facilities, such as the Events Center, Robertson Gymnasium, the Recreation Center, Tennis Courts, Storke Field, Robertson Field, The Lacrosse Pit, Campus Pool, and Harder Stadium. The proposed project would not significantly overburden these existing University recreational facilities (Spaventa, 2003).

The proposed project would result in development of 151 student housing units within the Storke-Whittier area of the North Campus. Consistent with LRDP policy 30221.1, the proposed residential developments would entail recreational and open space components for utilization by the new development, so as not to overburden existing recreational areas. The student-housing component of the proposed project would include approximately 4.1 acres of undeveloped open space (i.e., central courtyard green spaces), an approximately 14,000-square-foot community building containing meeting, recreation, and laundry facilities, volleyball and basketball courts, and play structures for toddlers and school-age children. With a population of 391, these project features would adequately serve proposed residents. Therefore, development of student housing would include provision of recreational amenities to offset demands from increased population of the area. As such, project residents would not rely solely on existing recreational facilities in the area that would lead to deterioration of those facilities. Students would have access to and use existing University facilities, such as the Events Center, Robertson Gymnasium, the Recreation Center, Tennis Courts, Storke Field, Robertson Field, The Lacrosse Pit, Campus Pool, and Harder Stadium. The proposed project would not significantly overburden these existing University recreational facilities (Spaventa, 2003).

The project would implement the portion of the Joint Proposal within the University's jurisdiction, which provides the opportunity to plan the preservation, management and development of the Ellwood-Devereux area in a comprehensive rather than piecemeal fashion. Comprehensive planning would allow improved public coastal access, and the preservation and enhancement of 652 consolidated acres of recreational, natural land, natural reserve, and marine environment resources. In addition to the preservation of contiguous open space, the Joint Proposal component of the proposed project would improve trails, close informal trails, add and repair coastal accessways, impose management controls, designated sensitive areas, and provide educational and directional signage. These actions would create an open space park-like area. Generally, the Open Space Plan would guide management practices on 131.3 acres of open space, while the Draft Coal Oil Point Reserve Management Plan would guide management of the 165.3 acres in the COPR (including the Expansion Area). Specifically, this development under the Open Space Plan would involve restoration and reorganization of trails such that public access would be limited to areas outside of the COPR, but would not reduce opportunities to hike, jog, bicycle, horseback ride, walk, bird watch, or view the coast. Such development under the Open Space Plan would involve access improvements to coastal recreational opportunities within the proposed Open Space Areas through provision or maintenance of up to four parking lots (the eastern terminus of Phelps Road, south of Cameron Hall, at Coal Oil Point and east of Camino Majorca), four beach access points (consistent with LRDP policy 30210.1), permanent, fixed restrooms at Coal Oil Point, and seating/overlooks primarily atop the bluffs as well as along the formalized trails bordering the COPR and beach access areas at Coal Oil Point and the West Campus Bluffs. As part of the proposed project and consistent with LRDP policy 30210.18, the campus also cooperated with the County of Santa Barbara and the California Department of Parks and Recreation in the proposed expansion of the California Coastal Trail System through designation of a Coastal Trail through the proposed Open Space Plan area. Figure 3-7 in the Project Description depicts proposed trail location and types as well as beach access points, public access points, and proposed new seating or overlooks. All of these actions will remediate physical degradation that is occurring due to existing activities and protect against similar degradation from future use.

As part of the proposed project and consistent with LRDP policy 30210.1, implementation of the Open Space Plan would maintain and improve public access to campus beaches (consistent with LRDP policies 30210.2), which would likely increase the use of these passive, recreational areas. However, public use would be limited to formalized trails through signage (consistent with LRDP policy 30210.9) and fencing, which would prevent further deterioration of the recreational opportunities and quality of the project area as well as limit access by the public to sensitive areas, including the sensitive dune areas within the West Campus Bluffs area, (consistent with LRDP policy 30210.15). Consistent with LRDP policy 30210.10, interpretive signs would be provided to highlight environmentally sensitive areas, which could be damaged by excessive or unauthorized access. The Open Space Plan would result in the formalization and restoration of 7.209 acres of existing trails and the closure (and the vegetative restoration) of 5.179 acres of existing trails. In addition, the closure of approximately 42 percent of existing trails within the project boundaries would result in an incremental increase in traffic on the

remaining formalized trails. However, public use would be limited to formalized trails through sign posting, consistent with LRDP policy 30210.9, which would prevent further deterioration of the recreational amenities and quality of the project area. The proposed project would be consistent with the aforementioned LRDP policies, which require the addition of recreational facilities within proposed nearby residential developments and formalized and/or maintained recreational access within the open coastal areas. In addition, the proposed project would mitigate increased recreational use impacts through project characteristics and amenities within the proposed contiguous open space area.

Consistent with LRDP policy 30210.14, handicap access would be provided within the Open Space Plan area where topographical and environmental constraints allow and along the bluff top for purposes of coastal viewing points. Handicap parking spaces would be provided at the proposed parking areas consistent with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the California Building Code (CBC). A total of nine designated handicap parking spaces would be constructed. In addition, the West Campus Bluffs Trail would be sufficiently improved to allow handicap access along the bluff top between Coal Oil Point and Camino Majorca, consistent with ADA standards for ground surface, stability, slope limitations, and other design considerations.

Consistent with LRDP policy 30240(a)8, pedestrian and bicycle use of unimproved paths would be discouraged through formalization of trails, fencing, and signage in the South Parcel and open space areas. However, implementation of the following mitigation Measures (MM) would be required as part of the proposed project:

MM 4.10-1(a). (i) Per LRDP policy 30213.1, outdoor recreational facilities, including recreation fields, basketball and tennis courts, may be used by the public at no cost, when not occupied by University classes or programs.

(ii) This shall be applicable to residents of the proposed developments on the North Campus as well as visitors of open space/recreational areas of the North and West Campuses.

MM 4.10-1(b). Per LRDP policy 30240(a)2, existing and proposed fences, signs, and information maps around the perimeter of the Reserve shall be maintained to restrict unauthorized access by pedestrians, dogs, motor vehicles (except service and emergency vehicles), and off-road bicycles.

MM 4.10-1(c). Per LRDP policy 30240(a)15, unleashed dogs and motor vehicles, except for service and emergency vehicles, shall be prohibited on campus beaches and in the North and West Campuses open space area.

With implementation of MM 4.10-1(a) through ~~Measure Mitigation~~ 4.10-1(c), the proposed project would increase recreational use of open space areas, but not in such a manner that substantial physical deterioration of Open Space areas (and the recreational opportunities

therein) would occur or be accelerated, and this impact would be reduced to a *less-than-significant* level.

Impact 4.10-2. Project implementation would include recreational facilities associated with residential development and coastal access improvement, which ~~would not~~ could have an adverse physical effect on the environment. With implementation of identified mitigation measures, this impact would be reduced to a *less-than-significant* level.

Amendment of the LRDP to permit residential and associated recreational facilities development on the North Campus, coastal access improvements, and open space management activities, including habitat restoration, would not have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

The proposed project would result in development of faculty housing on the North Parcel, which would include a swimming pool and recreation center (e.g., weight room) and family student housing on the Storke-Whittier Parcel, which would include basketball courts and a community center building, which could accommodate recreational activities.

Implementation of the portion of the Ellwood-Devereux Coast Open Space and Habitat Management Plan (Open Space Plan) under the University's jurisdiction would result in coastal access improvements, including: (1) improvement of existing trails, (2) improvement of existing beach access points, (3) installation of a new coastal access stairway, (4) provision of additional public parking, and (5) replacement of an existing portable restroom. These improvements would expand recreational opportunities, but would not involve the construction of any new recreational facilities, but would include improvement of existing trails, which may be used for passive recreation.

The potential environmental effects associated with the inclusion of recreational facilities in residential development and Open Space Plan under the University's jurisdiction are evaluated in Sections 4.2 through 4.16 of this EIR. With the incorporation of relevant mitigation measures discussed in other sections of this document and due to the relatively small amount of recreational facilities that are proposed, the construction and operation of these facilities per se would not result in significant environmental impacts. Furthermore, while implementation of the Open Space Plan under the University's jurisdiction will foreseeably increase use of the open space area, the improvements, remediation and restoration, management practices and LRDP Policies will remediate physical degradation that is occurring due to existing activities and protect against similar degradation from future use.

With implementation of mitigation measures identified for other environmental resources in this EIR, potential impacts from implementation of the proposed recreational components of the project ~~would not have an adverse physical effect on the environment, and this impact~~ would be reduced to a *less-than-significant* level.

Impact 4.10-3. Project implementation could result in the loss of existing recreational opportunities. With implementation of identified mitigation measures, this ~~is considered~~ impact would be reduced to a *less-than-significant* level. *Section 4.10 Recreation*

Amendment of the LRDP to permit residential development on the North Campus, coastal access improvements, and open space management activities, including habitat restoration, could result in adverse effects on existing recreational opportunities.

Development of 236 units of faculty housing on the North Parcel would include a swimming pool and recreation center (e.g., weight room). The development of 151 units of family student housing on the Storke-Whittier Parcel would include basketball courts and a community center building, which could accommodate recreational activities.

Implementation of the portion of the Ellwood-Devereux Coast Open Space and Habitat Management Plan (Open Space Plan) under the University's jurisdiction would result in coastal access improvements, including: (1) improvement of existing trails, (2) improvement of existing beach access points, (3) installation of a new coastal access stairway, (4) provision of additional public parking, and (5) replacement of an existing portable restroom. These improvements would generally expand recreational opportunities within Open Space areas.

The proposed project would result in faculty housing within the North Parcel of the North Campus. This land is not currently designated for recreational use and is unimproved, though it is crossed by a series of informal trails and is used by walkers, joggers, bicyclists, and horse-back riders. As part of the proposed project, a series of formal improved private and public paths and trails would be provided around and through the site, linking to the Window Trail along the western boundary of the North Campus. Provision and enhancement of formalized recreational opportunities within the North Parcel would protect sensitive resources and open space from degradation without significantly limiting recreational use. The proposed faculty housing within the North Parcel would entail recreational components (i.e., open areas, recreational facility with a pool) for utilization by the new development. In addition, provision of two formalized public access points north of the North Parcel would improve public access via proposed trails to recreational opportunities within adjacent open space areas and along the coast. The project proposal includes redesignation of the South Parcel from residential development to open space.

The proposed project would result in student housing within the Storke-Whittier area of the North Campus. The proposed student housing within the Storke-Whittier area would entail recreational components (i.e., open areas, recreational facilities with basketball and volleyball courts, play structures for toddlers and school-age children) for use by the new residents. Student-housing development would also result in the loss of the driving range located on the eastern edge of the Ocean Meadows Golf Course. However, the golf course would remain and five other public-access, driving ranges are located within the Cities of Goleta and Santa Barbara (refer to Table 4.10-3).

Table 4.10-3. Public-Access Driving Ranges within Project Vicinity

Driving Range Location	Address	Driving Distance from Ocean Meadows Golf Club (miles)
Glen Annie Golf Club	405 Glen Annie Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93117	1.9
Sandpiper Golf Course	7925 Hollister Avenue, Goleta, CA 93117	2.2
Twin Lakes Golf Course	6034 Hollister Avenue, Goleta, CA 93117	3.4
Santa Barbara Golf Club	3500 McCaw Avenue, Santa Barbara, CA 93105	10.1
Rancho San Marcos Golf Course	4600 Highway 154, Santa Barbara, CA 93105	18.5

The Open Space Plan would contribute to the creation of 652 acres of consolidated permanently preserved open space and natural reserve, formalize and improve trails, remediate damage from existing activities, designate and restore sensitive areas, and provide directional and educational signage. The proposed project would result in creation of open space park-like area with improvements such as trails and educational amenities within the South Parcel and trails and beach access within the West Campus Bluffs area. Development under the Open Space Plan would involve restoration and reorganization of trails such that public access would be limited to areas that exist outside of the general slough and sensitive dune habitat areas, but would not reduce opportunities to hike, jog, bicycle, horseback ride, walk, bird watch, or view the coast along the beach area of the COPR as well as on the Dune Pond Trail. Trail restoration and provision of signage and fencing, consistent with LRDP policy 30253.11, throughout proposed open space areas of project site would not result in the loss of recreational opportunities but rather the enhancement of such opportunities. Trails would not be paved; however they would be designated to avoid off-trail stomping. The proposed project would specifically include the formalization and restoration of 7.209 acres of existing trails and the closure of 5.179 acres of existing trails. This would result in the closure of approximately 42 percent of existing trails within the project boundaries. Figure 3-7 in the project description shows the trails that are proposed to be closed to protect or restore sensitive areas, and trails that are proposed to remain open. Signage and fencing would also limit access by public to sensitive areas (within the COPR and other restored habitat areas) and limit deterioration of recreational opportunities but would not reduce opportunities for hiking, bird watching, or coastal viewing (for bluffs), since seating/overlooks primarily atop the bluffs and along the formalized trails bordering the Devereux Slough and beach areas would be provided and four existing beach access points would be maintained and improved (consistent with LRDP policy 30210.2). In addition, provision of seven formalized public access points east of the open space area would improve public access via proposed trails to recreational opportunities within these open space areas and

along the coast. Therefore, implementation of Open Space Plan would not result in significant adverse impacts related to existing recreational opportunities.

The campus would continue to provide recreational facilities for students, faculty, and staff on campus, with provision of recreational facilities for faculty and student housing developments in the North Campus and implementation of trail restoration and improved beach access in the South Parcel and open space areas. Consistent with LRDP policy 30253.11, pedestrian use of unimproved paths up and down the bluff shall be discouraged through formalization of trails, fencing, and signage in the South Parcel and open space areas. In addition, consistent with LRDP policy 30210.2, public access to campus beaches would remain open to protect the permanent right of the public for pedestrian access and appropriate recreational uses of the beach.

With implementation of MM 4.10-1(a) through MM 4.10-1(c), the proposed project would not adversely affect existing recreational opportunities, and this impact would be reduced to a *less-than-significant* level.

4.10.5 Cumulative Impacts

The geographic context for the analysis of recreational impacts is the County of Santa Barbara, including all cumulative growth therein, as represented by full implementation of the County of Santa Barbara General Plan, the City of Santa Barbara General Plan, the City of Goleta General Plan, the UCSB Long Range Development Plan, and all approved or potential projects identified in Table 4.1-1.

The rationale for including the entire County is that students, faculty, and staff who commute to UCSB live off campus, and that persons from the entire County come to UCSB to utilize the unique coastal recreational opportunities. Therefore, County residents may utilize a variety of recreational facilities and programs offered by the campus and/or the County of Santa Barbara. As additional residential development in the County is approved, in-lieu fees for parks or donation of parkland (pursuant to the Quimby Act) would be required as part of the individual projects. In addition, grants from state and county bond sources (e.g., Proposition 12 and Proposition A) are available to fund additional parkland and recreational facilities in urban areas. These funding sources would provide additional parkland and recreational facilities in the County to satisfy demand from future population growth, and cumulative impacts on park and recreation facilities is anticipated to be less than significant as a result.

A significant increase in the demand for off-campus recreational facilities is not anticipated as a result of implementation of the proposed project, and on-campus recreational facilities will continue to be adequately provided for students, faculty, and staff. The campus contributes the equivalent of 52.2 acres of recreational facilities to the County's parkland inventory, as well as major capital improvements to these facilities, which are available to the residents of the County. The campus also maintains and operates these facilities. The proposed project addition of approximately 1,000 residents is accommodated by the provision of recreational facilities within

the proposed faculty and family student housing developments. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not increase demand for parkland and recreational facilities in the County of Santa Barbara, and, thus, the contribution of the proposed project to cumulative impacts is less than significant. This is considered to be a *less-than-significant* impact.

It is further anticipated that in order to accommodate future cumulative demand for park and recreation facilities, additional park and recreation facilities will be developed and constructed throughout the County of Santa Barbara. Because the size, location, and type of these future facilities is not known at this time, it is impossible to assess the magnitude of cumulative impacts associated with the construction of these facilities. However, it is reasonable to expect that all of these facilities will undergo CEQA review, and that project-specific impacts associated with development of each of these facilities will be mitigated to the extent feasible. As a result, cumulative impacts associated with construction of future park and recreation facilities are expected to be less than significant. The specific recreational project components of the proposed project are the inclusion of recreational areas (e.g., pools and open areas) within the proposed faculty and family student housing developments as well as the formalization of passive recreation (e.g., trails and beach access) within the proposed Open Space Plan area. While construction of the proposed project as a whole is expected to have some significant and unavoidable environmental impacts, a portion of which may be attributable to construction of the recreational facilities, this construction activity is not anticipated to result in a significant cumulative impact when considering the anticipated minor grading and earth movement associated with the proposed Open Space Plan area recreational formalization (the largest recreational component of the proposed project) as well as considered in conjunction with the construction of future park and recreation facilities elsewhere in the County of Santa Barbara. As a result, the contribution of the proposed project to cumulative environmental impacts from construction of park and recreational facilities countywide is less than significant. This is considered to be a *less-than-significant* impact.

Development of the proposed project housing facilities would convert existing passive recreational areas informally used by the public to private residential developments; however, these areas are not designated open space or recreational areas. Rather, the proposed project would formally designate 314.3 acres of open space and natural reserve under the University's jurisdiction. Despite the loss of the Ocean Meadows Golf Course Driving Range, cumulative affects to existing recreational opportunities would be less than significant due to the significant project contribution of formalized recreational opportunities unique to the coastal area. This is considered to be a *less-than-significant* impact.

The proposed project, in combination with other proposed projects and a general increase in population and use intensity in the proposed Open Space Plan area, would cumulatively add to a long-term trend of increased public use and access of recreational facilities, which may result in degradation of such facilities and potential impacts to the environment. The increased use of the proposed Open Space Plan area is anticipated and encouraged by the proposed project. The proposed project addition of approximately 1,000 residents is accommodated by the provision of recreational facilities within the proposed faculty and family student housing developments.

The open space plan would contribute to the creation of 652 acres of consolidated permanently preserved natural open space, formalize and improve trails, remediate damage from existing activities, designate and restore sensitive areas, and provide directional and educational signage. Per the proposed project's implementation of the Open Space Plan, the South Parcel of the North Campus and the West Campus Bluffs would be developed as a nature park/open space area. In addition, implementation of the proposed Open Space Plan includes management actions and measures (e.g., defined trails, trail maintenance, and interpretive/ educational signs and trailhead information) designed to increase public awareness and appreciation of natural, cultural, and recreational resources, thus diminishing the risk of unintentional or intentional deterioration of these resources. Therefore, the cumulative environmental impact associated with deterioration of recreational facilities is considered beneficial. This is considered to be a *beneficial* impact.

4.10.6 References

The following is a list of references for this subsection. Please refer to Section 9.0 for the master reference list.

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